



Databases for Swedish Genealogy

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With the advancement of technology, and interest in genealogy, we are fortunate to have so many great databases for Swedish genealogy. For this presentation, I'm going to focus on the databases that I use the most to help guests with ancestors from Sweden. I'll do a quick "demo" of the following database during the presentation:

Arkiv Digital

This is an online subscription service which offers digital copies of over 69 million images of Swedish records in color. Due to the quality of images and the structure of the user interface, this is my first choice to search Swedish records. If Arkiv Digital does not have the desired record, then we look through the FamilySearch catalog or through SVAR to see if a copy scanned from microfilm is available. Arkiv Digital has a web version, and as of May 2017 they still offer the old version to access digitized records. In the spring of 2017 they added searchable databases to help make research easier.

Website: <https://www.arkivdigital.se/>

Other Digital Record Providers

FamilySearch through the FamilySearch catalog (accessible by signing-in with an LDS Account.) Website: <https://familysearch.org/catalog/search>

SVAR is the publication arm of the Swedish National Archives (accessible for free at the FHL, otherwise by subscription.) Website: <https://sok.riksarkivet.se/svar-digitala-forskarsalen>

Ancestry.com has Swedish records which were scanned from microfilm along with other searchable databases. (accessible at a FamilySearch center, or by LDS Account, or by private subscription.) Website: <http://search.ancestry.com/Places/Europe/Sweden/Default.aspx>

MyHeritage

If the person, or family that you are looking for was living between 1800 and 1920 then I search the Sweden Household Examination Books, 1880 – 1920 database on MyHeritage. Although the same data is available on the web version of Arkiv Digital, I really like the "Advanced search" options which MyHeritage offers. Between the search options and the search functionality of this database, we usually find the desired person or family quickly. After finding the family, I use the source citations to look up the original images in Arkiv Digital.

Website: <https://www.myheritage.com/research/collection-10180/sweden-household-examination-books-1880-1920>

DISByt

The Swedish genealogical society DIS offers a database online where members can send a gedcom of their Swedish genealogy to become part of a collaborative database. It's a great way to find people in Sweden who might be working on the same family. They do not do a "match-merge" of the data sent in. Instead they let you browse the data and judge for yourself what the quality is like. They remove days and months, along with the smaller place names with the expectation that users need to look up the original record for full information. Still, with an ancestor's name, name of parish, and the year, you can look up the rest of the information easily. Access is by individual private subscription. Website: <https://disbyt.dis.se/>

FamilySearch Wiki

FamilySearch Wiki is like Wikipedia but all the articles and pages are focused on genealogy. Among the great resources for Swedish researchers are:

- Fixed and Moveable Feast Day conversion tables
- A large Swedish to English word list
- Parish pages for most of the parishes in Sweden. Each page includes a list of the small place names from about 1840. Many parish pages also include important jurisdictional information.
- Many other articles that teach you how to search Swedish records, databases, historical maps, and much more.

Website: https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Sweden_Genealogy

Svenska Ortnamn

This is a database on C.D. of about 400,000 place names in Sweden from 1999. It shows the name of the parish, or municipality that the place belonged to in 1999. Although an older place name (ex. from 1600, 1700, or 1800's) may have changed, or disappeared completely, it's still a fantastic resource most of the time. The search tools allow you to do partial name searches such as "begins with" or "ends with" and has a map which shows the locations from the search results. This place name database is accessible to use at the FHL, or can be purchased online from The Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies website at:

https://www.rotterbokhandeln.se/product.html/svenska-ortnamn?category_id=10

Parish Locator Tool

The Släktdata society created this page to show the parish locations. They took a historical list of parishes and overlaid it onto Google maps. You either click on the parish name or zoom in to see a location. This is a great way to see the surrounding parishes in relation to the parish that you're working in. Website: <http://www.slaktdata.org/map.php>

Emigranten Populär 2006

This CD has a database (called Emihamn) which includes 1.4 million emigrants who left from a Swedish port. The CD includes other databases that might be useful in your search for a place of origin in Sweden, but we use the main database regularly at the FHL. The Emihamn database is also available through Ancestry.com where it is known as: Swedish Emigration Records, 1783 – 1951. The CD is available through Riksarkivet at:
<http://webbutik.riksarkivet.se/se/produkter/cd-dvd/emigranten-popular-2006.html>

Emibas

This database was created by extracting the moving-out information of emigrants from Swedish parish records. It contains entries for 1.3 million individuals. The data was published on CD but was eventually discontinued as the coverage was incomplete. Nonetheless the FHL has a copy which is used routinely. The data is also available through Ancestry.com where it is called: Sweden, Emigrants Registered in Church Books, 1783 – 1991. It can also be found on the website called Emiweb at: <http://www.emiweb.eu>

Swedish Death Index 1901 – 2013

The Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies created a database of all the deaths in Sweden between 1901 and 2013. The database has over 9 million people registered, including their full name, birthplace, death place, marital status, and maiden names of deceased women before 1970. It is available on usb through the federation website at:

https://www.rotterbokhandeln.se/product.html/sveriges-dodbok-1901-2013-2?category_id=10